

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VETERANS OUTREACH CLINIC IN PLYMOUTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the opening of the new Veterans Outreach Clinic in Plymouth.

Our veterans in the South Shore of Massachusetts have long been calling for a local veterans' medical center of their own. After many years of working toward achieving this goal, the Department of Veterans Affairs' regional office in Boston was proud to announce that they would be opening a new Veterans Outreach Clinic in the Town of Plymouth. For the first time, veterans in the Plymouth area will no longer need to travel to Cape Cod, Brockton, or Boston in order to receive care. In particular, this new addition to the VA Boston Healthcare system will make a tremendous difference to those unable to seek medical care due to limited mobility or transportation resources. As approximately 40,000 veterans live in Plymouth County alone, the new Veterans Outreach Clinic will go a long way towards providing the quality care that our veterans deserve without overburdening them with long travel.

When the Veterans Outreach Clinic opens next spring, it will already have the capacity to care for up to six hundred patients. A doctor, a nurse, an LPN, and a medical assistant will be on hand five days a week to treat veterans and to assist them with the various challenges that they may face. It is essential that we do not forget the sacrifices that our veteran population has made for our country. We must continue to care for these men and women once they return home, and ensuring access to medical services is a necessary facet of the long-term care that our veterans deserve.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to recognize the opening of the new Veterans Outreach Clinic in Plymouth. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of this new facility, and of the valuable role that it will play in the lives of many local veterans.

COMMEMORATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN OF WORLD WAR II

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Guadalcanal campaign of World War II.

This month, as we approach the 70th anniversary of Guadalcanal, we are reminded of the many sacrifices that brought freedom and security to the South Pacific. We reflect upon the 7,100 men who gave their lives in the Guadalcanal campaign.

Guadalcanal lasted more than six months and effectively ended the military expansion of our enemies in the South Pacific. During that time, more than 60,000 Allied personnel participated in gaining control of Guadalcanal, its

surrounding islands, and Henderson Field, a particularly important location to enemy forces. There is no doubt that this victory significantly contributed to the eventual end of the Second World War.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and remembering this great sacrifice and appreciating the advancement of freedom that came at such a high cost 70 years ago.

HONORING THE D.L. MARTIN CO.
ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the D.L. Martin Company as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on August 9th, 2012, and to recognize and honor its founder and owner, Donnie L. Martin for receiving "Business Person of the Year" in Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

The D.L. Martin Company has experienced outstanding growth since it was first founded in 1962, when Donnie Martin first purchased a 3,000 square foot machine shop in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania and hired his first two employees. D.L. Martin has now grown to over 40 acres and 150,000 square feet of manufacturing floor space and employs nearly 200 people, making it an integral business in our community.

We are proud of the resilience that the D.L. Martin Company has shown and the excellent service that it has provided to Franklin County over the last 50 years. The company has become a world class provider of heavy industrial, construction and mining equipment, and also specializes in manufacturing custom hydraulics, elevator jacks and components, and engine and transmission parts for class 8 trucks. Their commitment to quality products and customer service has not gone unnoticed to their clients or to our community.

The company is holding a celebration in Mercersburg, Franklin County, Pennsylvania to commemorate its 50 years of business on August 9th, 2012. Current and former employees as well as family and friends in the community are invited to celebrate this anniversary and the promising future of D.L. Martin.

I would like to thank Donnie Martin for his service to our community and for being such an important employer to so many in our district. His integrity and strong work ethic have brought him great success thus far and have enabled his company to grow and thrive in our community. D.L. Martin continues to provide quality service and lasting jobs to the citizens of Franklin County and in other areas of Pennsylvania. As Congressman of the 9th district of Pennsylvania, I believe that their service has been very beneficial to the community and I know that they will experience continued success for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 539, due to a travel delay stemming from yesterday's inclement weather, I was unable to cast my vote on this legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE REDEDICATION OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 40 HONORING PFC EDWARD RIBIERO

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the rededication of American Legion Post 40 in Plymouth, Massachusetts, honoring PFC Edward Ribiero.

In the spring of 2010, heavy rains caused Little West Pond in Plymouth, Massachusetts to overflow, flooding American Legion Post 40. The flooding occurred not long after renovations had been completed on the Post and caused damage. The damage was so extensive that the entire building needed to be demolished. The Post's members began construction on a new, larger building in the hope of funding some construction costs by renting out their function room and gaining new members.

Even when faced with such adversity and loss, the members of American Legion Post 40 persevered. They remained committed to pushing forward the reconstruction of a new building, and did not falter. Such determination is a testament to the character and integrity of the men and women who have defended our nation both past and present, and to Post members who undertook this project.

The role of American Legion Posts cannot be understated. They remain sacred places for our veterans, playing a vital role in helping reintegrate our servicemen and women into society, especially those recently returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. That is why the rebuilding of American Legion Post 40 is such a great accomplishment. The members of the Post realized the important need for veterans to have a support community and they remained committed to ensuring that Plymouth had that in the new Post.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the members of American Legion Post 40 for their hard work and determination. I am certain Post 40 will serve the community for many years to come.

IRAN THREAT REDUCTION AND SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the amended version of H.R. 1905, the Iran Threat Reduction & Syria Human Rights Act.

I am a co-sponsor of and voted for the original version of this bill when it was on the House floor in December 2011. Since that time, the bill has been refined in the Senate with language designed to essentially paralyze Iran's oil sector, which has already seen its oil exports fall by 60 percent as a result of sanctions imposed to date. The improved bill before us even more broadly targets Iran's oil sector and anyone who tries to do business with Iran in this area. It will prevent the Central Bank of Iran from repatriating funds from the sale of oil as part of bilateral trade agreements Iran may have with other nations. Indeed, prior sanctions passed by this Congress have caused India and Turkey to deny Iranian banks licenses to set up branches in those nations. Finally, this bill includes sanctions targeting Syrian officials responsible for the massacres in that nation since the Syrian people began their uprising more than 18 months ago.

These are important steps we must take as part of a strategy to use every means available to compel Iran to meet its international obligations. Iran must renounce any effort to acquire nuclear weapons, and that claim must be verified through thorough, intrusive on-site inspections and monitoring.

I should also note that yesterday, President Obama announced a fresh set of sanctions against Iran's energy and petrochemical sectors based on existing sanctions law and his own authority as president. As President Obama noted this week, "The United States remains committed to a diplomatic solution, but the onus is on Iran to abide by its international obligations. If the Iranian government continues its defiance, there should be no doubt that the United States and our partners will continue to impose increasing consequences." The government of Iran should understand that Congress, on a bipartisan basis, is sending the same message by passing H.R. 1905. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

MAJOR TIM CROWE

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Tim Crowe, United States Army, who is soon ending his tour of duty in Washington, D.C. Major Crowe distinguished himself as both an Army Congressional Fellow and as a Legislative Liaison Officer with the U.S. Army and the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO). His next assignment is in my district at Fort Huachuca in Southern Arizona.

Like many of today's service members Major Crowe spent years away from his family and serving our country in harm's way, including deployments to Somalia, Kosovo and twice to Iraq. I came to know Major Crowe when he was an Army Fellow working for Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords in 2009. Originally an Infantry Officer and now a Military Intelligence Officer, Major Crowe provided much needed expertise to the office, with a special understanding of Fort Huachuca, home of the Army's Intelligence Joint Center of Excellence. He was an indispensable member of our team,

who made significant contributions to a variety of constituent issues, and guided several legislative efforts addressing veterans affairs, health care, and financial services issues.

Major Crowe spent eighteen months at the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO). He consistently provided insightful advice to JIEDDO's senior leadership on the impact of proposed counter-IED initiatives. He filled an important role keeping Congress informed of the Department of Defense efforts to counter IEDs; the greatest source of combat casualties this decade. Major Crowe was instrumental in developing a Department of Defense legislative proposal to amend JIEDDO's authority enabling it to fund critical interagency efforts to disrupt the flow of improvised explosive components entering Afghanistan. U.S. Central Command identified this authority as an urgent need, as the majority of IEDs used against our troops are made with materials smuggled into Afghanistan. The measure was included in the Fiscal Year 2013 Defense Authorization Bill.

Major Crowe's high level of integrity, dedication, outstanding leadership, relentless pursuit of excellence, and focus on the mission, significantly contributed to the effectiveness, readiness, and outstanding quality of the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization. In so doing, our men and women in uniform have been provided the tools necessary to carry out their mission in Iraq and Afghanistan. His outstanding service coupled with his selfless devotion to duty will have a lasting and positive effect on JIEDDO's future relations with Congress. I look forward to being Major Crowe's Representative as he embarks on the next stage of his career at Fort Huachuca.

HONORING MS. KATHY ASHE

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 21 years of service in the Georgia General Assembly House of Representatives by Kathy Ashe. Upon her decision to retire this year she leaves a legacy of altruism inside and outside the legislature and her contributions will be greatly missed.

Kathy represents the heart of Atlanta, the city that I am proud to call home and represent in the U.S. House of Representatives. Kathy has stood firm in her advocacy for women and children, and has been a leader in K-12 public education and a leader by example in higher education.

Kathy was born in DeKalb, Illinois and has always spent her life in service to the community; first as a community leader, later as an educator, and continually as a volunteer. She is an example of someone who practices what she preaches and has always used her bipartisan leadership to represent the needs of her constituents. Before being elected to the Georgia Assembly in 1991, Kathy graduated from Agnes Scott College and went on to receive a Masters of Arts in Teaching from Emory University and further continued her path to higher education graduate studies at Georgia State University. She taught in the Marietta and Cobb County public schools for 8 years

before dedicating herself to a career in public service.

Kathy has taken an active leadership role in a variety of organizations including the Atlanta Community Food bank, Atlanta Women's Network, Planned Parenthood Atlanta, Central Health Center, City of Atlanta Child Care Task Force, and many other boards and foundations. It goes without saying that her involvement in the community is consistent and done with a graceful dedication.

Representative Ashe, your presence and leadership will be missed in the General Assembly. Let it be known that your hard work and dedication to all Georgians and to the people of Atlanta is appreciated, and I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIRST
ANNUAL STAND DOWN EVENT
AT CAPE COD ACADEMY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the first annual Stand Down event at Cape Cod Academy.

On August 11, 2012, at its Stand Down event, Cape Cod Academy in Osterville will open its doors to local veterans and will provide these men and women with a variety of services and support. The term "stand down" originated as a military term, designating that a combat unit was temporarily moved away from the front lines for rest and rehabilitation. The tradition of hosting service-oriented events for veterans, and giving them the "Stand Down" name, originated in the United States after the Civil War, when returning soldiers were offered food and medical treatment in the towns they passed on their long journeys home. Modern Stand Down events have evolved as an opportunity to provide needed services to local veterans.

The Stand Down event at Cape Cod Academy will provide services—such as general health screenings and dental care, benefits assistance, registry of motor vehicles services, the availability of clergy, and free clothing and hygiene items—in a safe and welcoming environment. Most of the volunteers at this event will be Cape Cod Academy students. It is truly admirable that these young people are ready and willing to give their time on a Saturday afternoon to honor our local veterans.

As more than thirty thousand veterans call Cape Cod home, it is crucial that we offer assistance to the men and women who have served our nation. Cape Cod Academy, its students, and its faculty have truly done the community a great service by planning and hosting this event. I look forward to seeing the Academy's success as it continues this newly-annual tradition in the future.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to recognize the first annual Stand Down event at Cape Cod Academy. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the students and faculty who have worked to bring this event to life, and the importance that this event will have to the Cape Cod community.